

## REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 9-13, 15-22, 24-28, and 33-42 are pending. Claims 1, 3-6, 9-13, 15-22, 24, 26-28, and 33 have been allowed. The indication of allowed claims is noted with appreciation. Claims 2, 25, and 34-42 have been rejected. Claims 34-42 have been canceled. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-6, 9-13, 15-22, 24-28, and 33 in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

### The Rejection of Claims 34-42

Claims 34-42 stand rejected as obvious in view of several references. Claims 34-42 have been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

### The Rejection of Claims 2 and 25

Claims 2 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

Claims 2 and 25 depend from independent Claims 1 and 24, respectively. Claims 1 and 24 recite the transition "consisting essentially of," which excludes from the scope of Claims 1 and 24 any ingredient that materially affects the basic and novel characteristics of the claims composition. Claims 2 and 25 are directed to the compositions of Claims 1 and 24, respectively, "further comprising" the various recited ingredients. The various recited ingredients include a preservative, an optical brightener, a plasticizer, a dispersing aid, a coalescing aid, and a defoaming agent. Applicant respectfully submits that the ingredients recited in Claims 2 and 25 are not ingredients that materially affect the basic and novel characteristics of the claims paint composition. The ingredients recited in Claims 2 and 25 are merely additives that are well known and commonly employed in paint compositions.

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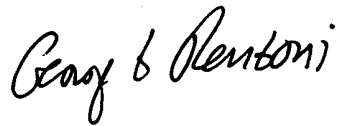
Because the ingredients recited in Claims 2 and 25 are merely additives that are well known and commonly employed in paint compositions, the ingredients do not materially affect the basic and novel characteristics of the claimed paint composition.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and foregoing remarks, applicant believes that Claims 1-6, 9-13, 15-22, 24-28, and 33 are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain that may be expeditiously addressed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicant's attorney at 206.695.1755.

Respectfully submitted,

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